

## REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing, reexamination and reconsideration of the subject matter identified in caption, as amended, and in light of the remarks that follow are respectfully requested.

As correctly noted in the Office Action Summary, claims 1-20 are pending in the application.

By the amendments, the title of the invention, the specification and the drawings have been revised, as discussed below. These revisions have been made in response to the objections to the title and/or drawings.

Turning now to the Official Action, the drawings stands objected to for the reasons set forth in section 2 of the Official Action. This objection has been obviated by the attached proposed revisions to the drawings, by which the claimed connector has shown in Figures 1 and 2 as drawing reference numeral 114 and 215, respectively. The specification has been revised consistent with the drawing revision.

The title of the invention has been deemed not descriptive of the invention. While applicants respectfully disagree with this statement, a new title of the invention has been added above.

Claims 1-3, 5-16 and 18-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Shahid* (U.S. Patent No. 5,613,024). In addition, claims 4 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Shahid*. These rejections are respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

The present invention relates to optical interconnects. Independent claims 1, 11 and 20, and the claims dependent thereon are directed to optical interconnects. Based on a complete understanding of the present invention, it is respectfully submitted that the claims cannot properly be rejected based on the teachings of *Shahid*.

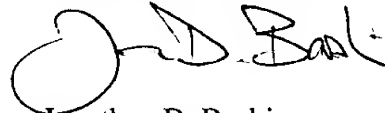
The Official Action relies on Figures 5-8 of *Shahid*. *Shahid* and the cited figures, however, are not suggestive of applicants' invention at least for the following reasons. *Shahid* does not disclose or suggest each feature of the presently claimed invention. For example, to the extent Figure 7 of *Shahid* is relied upon by the Examiner, there is no disclose or suggestion of the presently claimed optical interconnect of independent claims 1, 11 and 20 which includes a planar waveguide structure. In this regard, Figure 7 merely

illustrates an array of fibers 81 in V-grooves 79 (*see* col. 4, line 64). The term “planar waveguide” is a term of art understood by persons skilled in the art to not include optical fibers – this is all the more clear when one reads applicants’ claims in light of the specification. Further, to the extent Figure 5 of *Shahid* is relied upon, at least the presently claimed depression features of independent claims 1, 11 and 20 are not suggested thereby.

From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order, and such action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions concerning this paper or the application in general, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to expedite prosecution of the subject application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan D. Baskin', written over a horizontal line.

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**Amendments to the Drawings:**

The attached sheet of drawings includes revisions to Figures 1 and 2. This sheet replaces the original sheet which also includes Figures 1 and 2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet.